

CLINTON & PROSPECT TENANTS' ASSOCIATION

c/o EVICTION FREE ZONE • 11 INMAN ST. • CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138 • (617) 868-2900

Mayor Francis Duehay
City Councilors
795 Massachusetts Ave.
Cambridge, MA 02139

Re: Consent Communication

November 18, 1998

To Mayor Duehay and City Councilors:

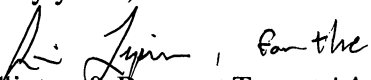
We are writing to inform you of the dire situation we face as low and moderate-income citizens of the City of Cambridge, in the hope that you will be able to assist us in our fight to preserve our homes. Following the death of our previous owner, the Clinton and Prospect Apartments at 258-270 Harvard St. have recently fallen under the ownership of Mrs. Elaine Schuster in conjunction with the Wingate Management Company. After a series of harassing letters, Mrs. Schuster has demanded a 20% rent increase from all tenants, even as many of us endure sub-code housing conditions. We simply cannot afford such a drastic increase. As if to offer some concession, Mrs. Schuster has said that tenants who cannot afford this increase can apply for a reduction in the increase (without specifying the criteria by which need will be assessed), so long as these lower income tenants agree to move out within five months. This ultimatum to low and moderate-income tenants threatens the economic and ethnic diversity that has made Cambridge such a special place. We are particularly offended that Mrs. Schuster, a major fund-raiser for the Democratic party, has decided that it would be appropriate for her to force working individuals and families from their homes just to pad her already sizable wallet. We have requested negotiations with either Mrs. Schuster or her representatives, but we have received no response.

We therefore request that the Mayor and members of the City Council pass a resolution of concern and support for the tenants of the Clinton & Prospect Apartments, and that you forward a copy of the resolution to the following address:

Elaine M. Schuster
President, Clinton & Prospect Apartments, Inc.
75 Central St.
Boston, MA 02109

We hope that this resolution will convince Mrs. Schuster and Wingate Management to reconsider the proposed rent increases, and to sit down at the table with representatives from our tenants' association to discuss our goals of security and permanent affordability in housing. Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely yours,


The Clinton & Prospect Tenants' Association

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

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Consent Communication #19

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A communication was received from
The Clinton & Prospect Tenants' Association,
transmitting concern for the dire situation of
low and moderate-income citizens in their
fight to preserve their homes in the City of
Cambridge.

In City Council November 23, 1998

PLACED ON FILE

ORDER ADOPTED

#45